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## CHINA.

*Report from Hongkong—Plague and smallpox.*

HONGKONG, CHINA, April 29, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the report of inspection work at this station for the week ended April 27, 1901:

Fourteen vessels were inspected during the week, 1,215 individuals were bathed and 1,989 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

Sixty-five cases of plague and 55 deaths were reported to the medical officer of health during the week. This is a marked increase over the number reported last week: The number of cases thus far this year far out numbers those reported during the first four months of last year.

The weather is warm, very damp, and there have been several heavy rainfalls, conditions presumably favoring the development of an epidemic. Seven cases of smallpox and 5 deaths were reported during the week.

The U. S. army transport *Meade* is at present held in quarantine and undergoing disinfection under the supervision of the health officer of the port because of smallpox having developed in the person of a Porto Rican fireman. This man shows evidence of recent vaccination and the surgeon of the transport states it was done after leaving San Francisco on the last voyage to Manila. The steamer arrived at Manila about April 20, left again for Hongkong April 23, and arrived here April 26. The man was removed to the hospital for infectious diseases April 28.

Respectfully,

JOHN W. KERR,  
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

## COLOMBIA.

*Report from Bocas del Toro—Fruit port.*

BOCAS DEL TORO, COLOMBIA, May 28, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the following report of the transactions at this port for the week ended Tuesday, May 28, 1901, inclusive:

The following vessels have cleared from this port during the week, and I inclose herewith the triplicate certificates for same: May 22, Norwegian steamship *Jamaica*, Petersen, master; crew, 17; no passengers; for Mobile, Ala.; Norwegian steamship *Colombia*, Hertzberg, master; crew, 17; no passengers; for Mobile, Ala.; Norwegian steamship *Simon Dumois*, Nieuwjaar, master; crew, 15; no passengers; for Mobile, Ala. May 25, Norwegian steamship *Kitty*, Mortinsen, master; crew, 20, including ship's surgeon, R. W. O'Donnell; no passengers; for New Orleans, La.

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The health conditions at this port are very satisfactory at this time.						
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Respectfully,

PAUL OSTERHOUT,  
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.